



TOM TORLAKSON
State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Common Core State Standards Special Education Assessment Update



Advisory Commission on Special Education
Meeting
May 2, 2013


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Common Core State Standards Special Education Web site Update

NEW marks documents that have been
added within each of the tabs



California Department of
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Specialized Programs		

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New parent and student resources in Spanish

Common Core State Standards

Resources and guidelines on the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) for the Special Education Community.

Educational standards describe what students should know and be able to do in each subject in each grade. State Board of Education decides on the standards for all students, from kindergarten through high school. All states have adopted the same standards for English and math. These standards are called the Common Core Standards (CCSS). Having the same standards helps all students get a good education, even if they change to a different state. Teachers, parents, and education experts designed the standards to prepare students for college and the workplace. For details regarding the CCSS for all students visit the main [CCSS Web page](#).

This site offers resources and guidelines on what the CCSS and the new tests will mean for California students and the Education Community.

[CCSS](#) [General Assessment](#) [Alternate Assessment](#) [Parents and Students](#) [Other Resources](#)

CCSS

The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) for English and math were adopted in 2010. These standards provide students need to learn at each grade level. They provide a chance to improve access to quality content standards for students with disabilities.

- [Common Core State Standards Initiative](#) [New!](#)
 - ◆ [Application to Students with Disabilities](#) [New!](#) (PDF)
 - ◆ [Frequently Asked Questions](#) [New!](#)
- [CCSS Impact on Special Education](#) (PDF) [New!](#)
Presented to the National Center and State Collaborative Communities of Practice on January 30, 2013.
- [Special Edge – Common Core State Standards Edition](#) [New!](#) (PDF)

- [10 things parents should know about the CCSS](#) [New!](#)
Available in both English and Spanish, from Colorín Colorado.
- [Spotlight on the CCSS – What do parents need to know?](#) [New!](#)
What do parents need to know about the Common Core State Standards (CCSS)? How will they affect teaching and assessing mathematics and English language arts? What are the benefits and what can parents do to prepare for the CCSS? These and other questions are answered in the March 2011 "Spotlight on the Common Core State Standards"—a series published by Education Northwest to keep regional stakeholders informed about this important initiative.
- [A parent's guide to the Common Core Standards](#) [New!](#)
- [Consejo de Escuelas de las Grandes Ciudades – Guía para padres sobre los estándares de CCSS](#) [New!](#)
Guías para padres que dan información sobre los temas académicos que sus estudiantes van a aprender en los grados K - 8. Estas guías están escritas por grado y dan información sobre el aprendizaje de matemáticas que los estudiantes van a aprender (Spanish Parent Roadmaps to the Common Core Standards-Mathematics).
- [¿QUÉ NECESITAN SABER LOS PADRES?](#) [New!](#)
Una serie publicada por Education Northwest para mantener a personas interesadas, informadas sobre la iniciativa de los Estándares Básicos Comunes.

Visit <http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/se/cc/> for details.



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Smarter Balanced Assessment: Spring 2013 Pilot Test Update

- To date, one million students signed up to participate in the Smarter Balanced Pilot Test
- As of April 19:
 - 367,468 tests have been started
 - 297,768 tests have been completed



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Smarter Balanced Assessment: Pilot Research Forms

- Investigate specific assessment accessibility and accommodation issues
- Accommodated versions of test forms (Research Forms) will not be available for all grades and content areas
- See Pilot Test Accessibility and Accommodations Guidelines handout for details



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Smarter Balanced Assessment: Personal Needs Profile (PNP)

- Developed for all students who may need an accessibility tool
- Matches supports to individual needs
- Students requiring one or more accessibility/accommodation support will have this documented prior to test administration
 - Digital delivery system will activate the specified options when the student logs in to an assessment.
 - For paper-based administration, the PNP will allow the assessment program to deliver the appropriate materials to each school.
 - Provides information to the school regarding any special settings or conditions



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Smarter Balanced Assessment: Digital vs. Paper Assessment Accommodations

Digital Based

- File can contain several forms of a given item
 - Auditory
 - Braille
 - American Sign Language (ASL)
 - Glossary definitions
 - Text-based descriptions
- Flexible
- Access to a variety of devices that student can control for response

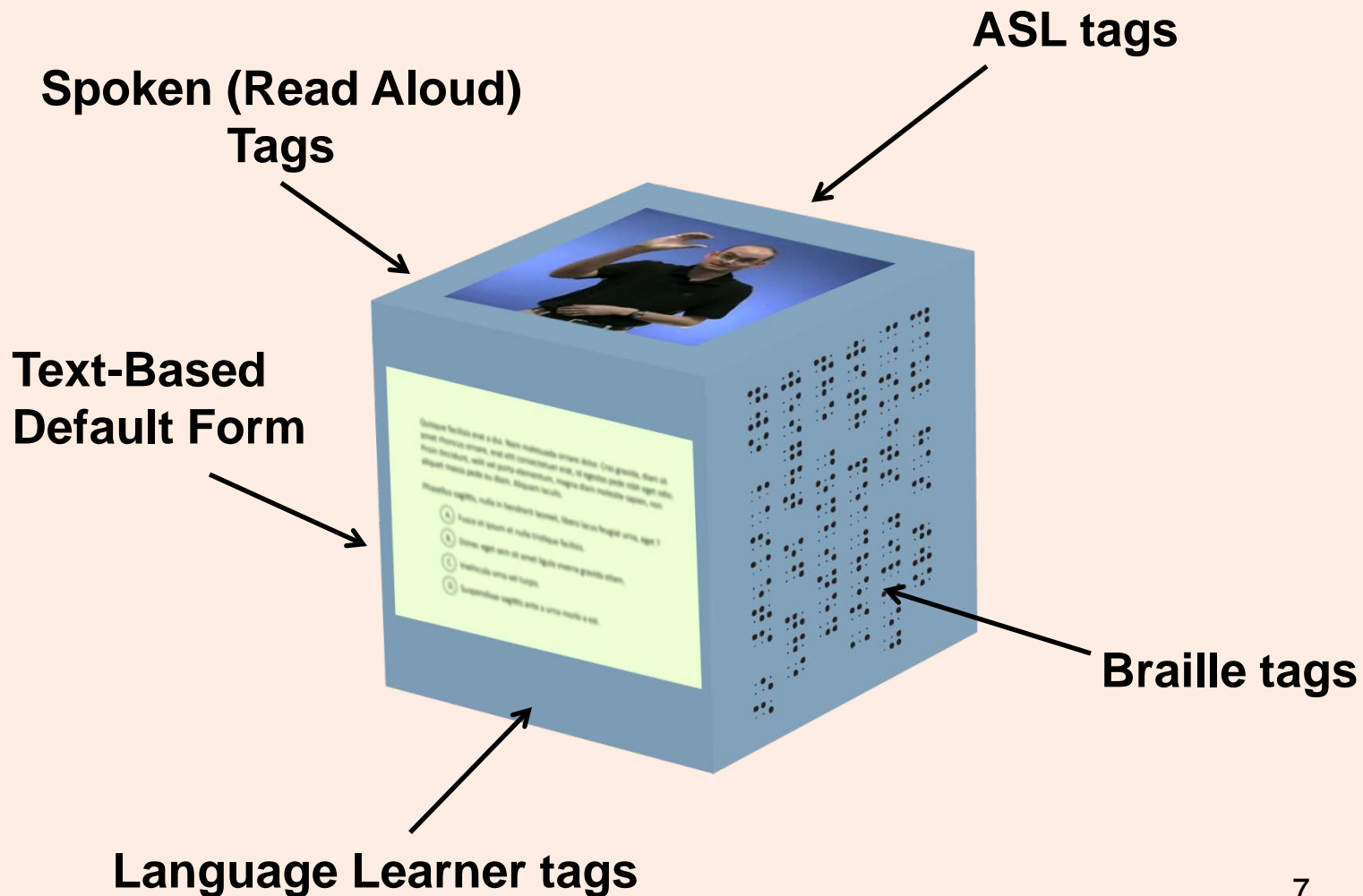
Paper Based

- Flat uni-dimensional
- Inflexible fixed print-based format
- Requires pen or pencil to respond (if student unable to use pen or pencil requires human intervention)



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Smarter Balanced Assessment: Accessibility Supports Embedded in a Digital File





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Smarter Balanced Assessment: Practice Test

- Formerly called the Volunteer Pilot Test
 - The Practice test will be available on May 29, 2013 until the operational test goes live
- Practice test versions will support several accommodations:
 - Text-to-speech
 - Item-level pop-up Spanish glossaries for construct irrelevant terms (Math tests only)
 - Braille
 - ASL



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Smarter Balanced Assessment: Practice Test (continued)

- Accommodated forms will be released in phases across the listed grade/content combinations:
 - Phase 1: May 29: Accommodations available in grades 3, 7, 11 for Math, and in grades 4, 7, and 11 for ELA; no ASL support for any grades.
 - Phase 2: (TBD, based on vendor production capacity): Accommodations in all grades for both content areas; no ASL support for any grades.
 - Phase 3 : (TBD, based on vendor production capacity): ASL accommodation in all grades and content areas.



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Smarter Balanced Assessment: National Special Education Concerns

- Item development has already begun without an agreed upon accommodations and accessibility policy framework
- concern that general and special education educators are unprepared to support and facilitate a deep shift in current classroom practice
 - Many teachers haven't learned the strategies needed to teach critical thinking
 - Even fewer understand how to scaffold lessons, building from an introduction of new concepts to progressively more complex understanding and critical thinking



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National Center and State Collaborative Alternate Assessment: National News

- **No Cost One-year Extension:** National Center and State Collaborative (NCSC) has secured one more year to oversee the rollout of the alternate assessment
- **Cost and Governance Options:** Options will be presented to states in August to obtain feedback on policy decisions. NCSC anticipates that the cost will be fairly minimal. A Face-to-Face Governance/Policy meeting is being scheduled in September 2013 to solidify policy decisions



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National Center and State Collaborative Alternate Assessment: National News (continued)

- **California joined the NCSC Communication Dissemination Team:** CDE, the NCSC advisory group, and teachers will offer feedback on how to best roll out all NCSC communication efforts
- **Use of the Mathematics Curriculum and Instructional Resources:** These documents will go public this summer. All of the mathematics materials can be used for training and classroom use by educators to prepare students for the pre-pilot student interaction research, pilot test item studies, and field/operational test



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National Center and State Collaborative Alternate Assessment: National News (continued)

- **NCSC Item Bank:** There will be enough items in the item bank for states to use for about four years after 2014–15
- **NCSC Blueprints:** NCSC built their blueprint from information gathered from the reviews/comments of the curriculum/instruction materials and feedback from the professional development modules. The blueprint currently includes content coverage in grade levels and a blend of items that fit the population



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National Center and State Collaborative Alternate Assessment: News (continued)

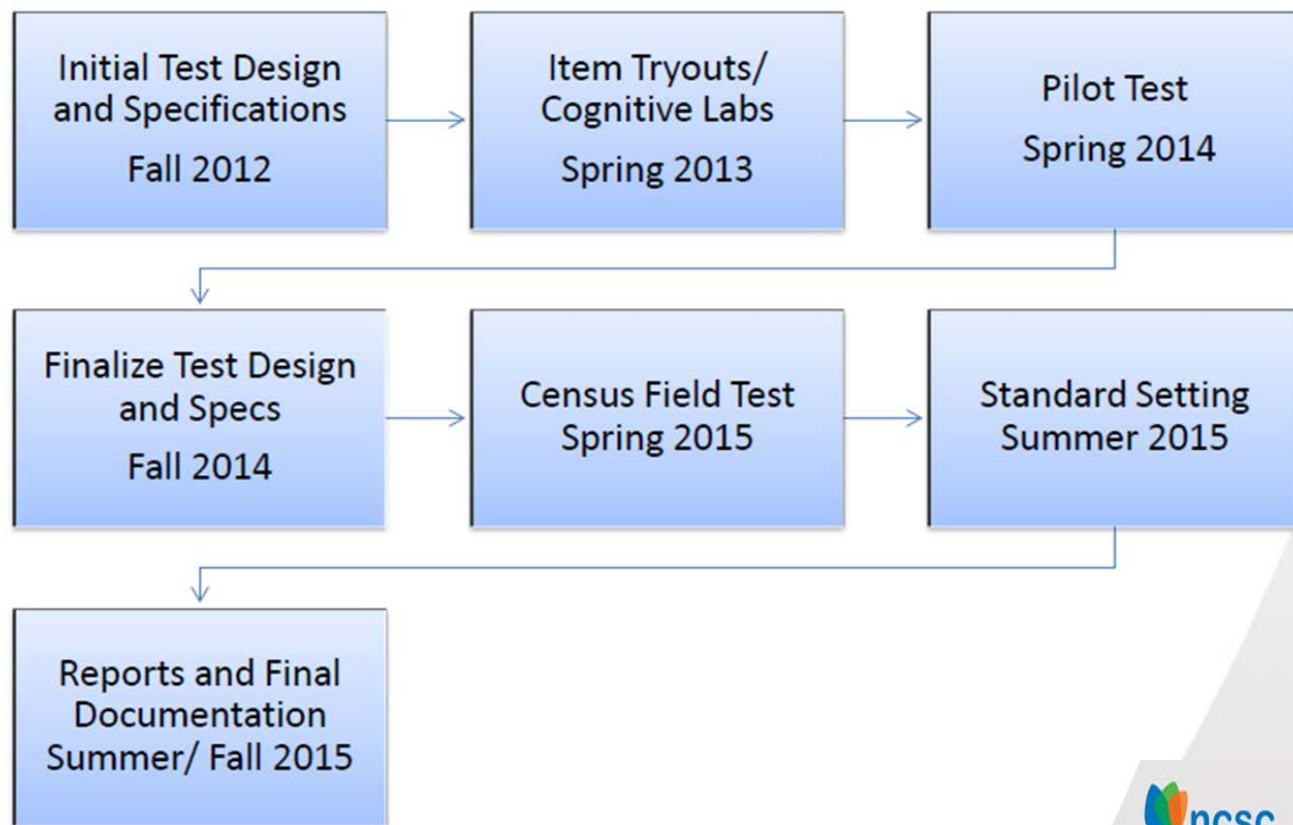
Test Item Development: All test items go through multiple reviews before the final transfer to NCSC:

- NCSC and state partners internal review
- Item content and bias reviews
- NCSC and state partners final item review
- Accessible Portable Item Protocol (APIP) review
 - APIP is an XML based open standard that provides a way for computer based assessment content to be transferable and accessible. This will help make test content accessible by specifying student needs ahead of time. The test content and testing environment can be tailored to meet each student's individual needs.



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National Center and State Collaborative Alternate Assessment: Activities and Timeline





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National Center and State Collaborative Alternate Assessment: Communities of Practice Update

- Approximately 90 special educators representing Northern, Southern, and Central regions across California have reviewed and commented on the following Webinars:
 1. Orientation
 2. Math Part 1
 3. Math Part 2
 4. Communication Part 1



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National Center and State Collaborative Alternate Assessment: Upcoming Community of Practice Reviews

- May 1, 2013: Communication Part 2 Webinar
- Mid-May 2013: WebEx Orientation to NCSC Instructional Resources in Mathematics Guide. This will prep the Community of Practice members on all the sections in the guide.
- June 1, 2013: Two Webinars on graduated understandings along with a document outlining charts and families—these are sections from the Instructional Resources in Mathematics



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National Center and State Collaborative Alternate Assessment: Upcoming NCSC Test Item/ Passage Reviews

California Tier II Participants:

Mathematics

June 3–7:	Grades 3–5 SELPA Director and CA CoP Facilitator Grades 6–8 CDE Staff, Assessment Division
July 8–12:	Grades 3–5 CA CoP Teacher Grade 11 CDE Staff, Assessment Division
July 29–Aug 2:	Grades 3–5 CA CoP Teacher

English language arts

July 15–19:	Grades 6–8 CA CoP Teacher
August 19–23:	Grades 3–5 CDE Staff, Special Education Division
Sept 9–13:	Grades 6–8 CDE Staff, Assessment Division



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